

# KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**CONTACT:** Lisa Y. Gross

**Office** - (502) 564-2015

**Cellular** - (502) 330-5063

[lisa.gross@education.ky.gov](mailto:lisa.gross@education.ky.gov)

**\*\*NOTE TO EDITORS/REPORTERS: NAEP SCORES ARE NOT REPORTED FOR DISTRICTS, SCHOOLS OR STUDENTS.\*\***

## **KENTUCKY NAEP READING SCORES SHOW SIGNIFICANT GAINS**

(FRANKFORT, KY.) -- The results of the 2009 National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) in reading show that Kentucky's 4th and 8th graders made significant gains when compared to the state's performance in previous NAEP assessments.

According to NAEP, Kentucky is one of three states that had a statistically significant increase in 4th-grade reading scores from 2007 to 2009. Kentucky is also one of nine states that had a statistically significant increase in 8th-grade reading scores from 2007 to 2009. Kentucky is the only state in the nation to report increases in both 4th- and 8th-grade reading scores.

Scale scores for Kentucky 4th and 8th graders in 2009 surpassed the national average. The NAEP grading scale ranges from 0 to 500.

### **READING SCALE SCORES – TRENDS SINCE 1998**

	<b>KENTUCKY 4<sup>TH</sup>- GRADE SCALE SCORE</b>	<b>NATIONAL AVERAGE 4<sup>TH</sup>-GRADE SCALE SCORE</b>	<b>KENTUCKY 8<sup>TH</sup>- GRADE SCALE SCORE</b>	<b>NATIONAL AVERAGE 8<sup>TH</sup>-GRADE SCALE SCORE</b>
1998	218	213	262	261
2002	219	217	265	263
2003	219	216	266	261
2005	220	217	264	260
2007	222	220	262	261
<b>2009</b>	<b>226</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>267</b>	<b>262</b>

Students' performance on NAEP fits into one of four categories: Below Basic, Basic, Proficient or Advanced. In Kentucky, in reading, 72 percent of 4th graders and 79 percent of 8th graders scored at the Basic level or above.

(more)

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Since 1998, Kentucky's results have remained steady, with minor gains and losses, but the 2009 results in Kentucky have significantly increased above the national average. Since 1998, Kentucky's 4th graders have gained 8 points on the NAEP reading assessment, and 8th graders have gained 5 points.

2003 marked the first year NAEP was administered under the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act of 2001. Under NCLB, states applying for Title I funds must indicate that they plan to participate in NAEP. In 2009, all 50 states, along with the District of Columbia and Department of Defense schools, participated in the NAEP reading and mathematics assessments.

**2009 NAEP SCALE SCORES – KENTUCKY COMPARED TO OTHER STATES/JURISDICTIONS**

	<b>STATES/JURDISTICTIONS SCORING LOWER THAN KY</b>	<b>STATES/JURDISTICTIONS SCORING HIGHER THAN KY</b>	<b>STATES/JURDISTICTIONS SCORING ABOUT THE SAME AS KY</b>
<b>4<sup>TH</sup>-GRADE READING</b>	28	6	17
<b>8<sup>TH</sup>-GRADE READING</b>	20	11	20

NAEP reports data based on whether accommodations were allowed in the testing process, meaning that students with disabilities and those considered to have limited English proficiency (LEP) can have special assistance in order to complete the test. Certain students may be excluded from the test based on teacher recommendations using students' Individual Education Plans (IEPs). NAEP does not allow all the accommodations Kentucky students need and are allowed on the state's tests. Kentucky also offers an alternate assessment program for those students with the most severe disabilities, and NAEP does not offer an alternate assessment.

For more than 40 years, NAEP has been the country's only nationally representative and continuing survey of students' educational achievement. The assessment is authorized by Congress, directed by NCES and developed by Educational Testing Service of Princeton, New Jersey. Westat, Inc. of Rockville, Maryland, conducts sample selection and data collection.

NAEP protects the confidentiality of students, teachers and schools that participate by not reporting individual student, teacher or school data. NAEP provides results for major demographic groups, and states that meet NAEP reporting criteria are able to compare their results with both national results and the results of other states.

(more)

## READING SCALE SCORES – TRENDS SINCE 1998

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## READING SCALE SCORES BY FREE OR REDUCED LUNCH ELIGIBILITY

	4 <sup>TH</sup> GRADE ELIGIBLE- KENTUCKY (NATION)	4 <sup>TH</sup> GRADE NOT ELIGIBLE - KENTUCKY (NATION)	8 <sup>TH</sup> GRADE ELIGIBLE- KENTUCKY (NATION)	8 <sup>TH</sup> GRADE NOT ELIGIBLE - KENTUCKY (NATION)
1998	206 (195)	227 (226)	251 (245)	270 (268)
2002	209 (202)	229 (229)	253 (249)	273 (271)
2003	209 (201)	229 (229)	257 (246)	273 (271)
2005	212 (203)	228 (230)	256 (247)	271 (270)
2007	212 (205)	234 (232)	252 (247)	271 (271)
<b>2009</b>	<b>215 (206)</b>	<b>236 (232)</b>	<b>257 (249)</b>	<b>276 (273)</b>

## READING SCALE SCORES BY GENDER

	4 <sup>TH</sup> GRADE MALE- KENTUCKY (NATION)	4 <sup>TH</sup> GRADE FEMALE - KENTUCKY (NATION)	8 <sup>TH</sup> GRADE MALE- KENTUCKY (NATION)	8 <sup>TH</sup> GRADE FEMALE - KENTUCKY (NATION)
1998	216 (210)	219 (215)	256 (253)	269 (268)
2002	215 (214)	224 (220)	261 (258)	270 (267)
2003	215 (213)	223 (220)	261 (256)	272 (267)
2005	218 (214)	222 (220)	258 (255)	270 (266)
2007	219 (216)	226 (223)	257 (256)	266 (266)
<b>2009</b>	<b>222 (216)</b>	<b>229 (223)</b>	<b>263 (258)</b>	<b>271 (267)</b>

## READING SCALE SCORES BY RACE

	4 <sup>TH</sup> GRADE WHITE- KENTUCKY (NATION)	4 <sup>TH</sup> GRADE AFRICAN AMERICAN - KENTUCKY (NATION)	8 <sup>TH</sup> GRADE WHITE- KENTUCKY (NATION)	8 <sup>TH</sup> GRADE AFRICAN AMERICAN - KENTUCKY (NATION)
1998	220 (223)	199 (192)	264 (268)	246 (242)
2002	222 (227)	199 (198)	267 (271)	248 (244)
2003	221 (227)	202 (197)	269 (270)	245 (244)
2005	222 (228)	203 (199)	266 (269)	248 (242)
2007	225 (230)	203 (203)	264 (270)	247 (244)
<b>2009</b>	<b>228 (229)</b>	<b>204 (204)</b>	<b>269 (271)</b>	<b>249 (245)</b>

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